



# FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY NEWSLETTER May 2009

## HIGHLIGHTS: February, March and April



In February, Helen Kostel presented a program on 19<sup>th</sup> Century Art as part of "Picturing America" collection.

- Keith Simpson gave a lecture on his book, Try Hard: One Man's Goal in Regaining Lost Dreams.
- Membership in the Friends of the Library increased to 125 members. September is renewal month.
- A new bench was placed in the back parking lot in memory of D. H. "Scoop" Scott, Jr.
- Jean Ann Manner was among those attending the presentation of a gavel in memory of her husband, Jack Manner, by the Library Board of Trustees.
- Dr. Don Roberts joined the Library Board of Trustees.

## SUCCESSFUL SPRING BOOK SALE



Many books were sold at the Friends Book Sale on April 3 and 4, at reasonable prices to add \$1007 to the Friends Treasury. This money is being used for library needs such as flag stands, caricaturist for the summer reading program, flowers for 2 bench areas, and redecoration of the Michael Armstrong Community Room. Thanks go to Chairman, Martha Edwards, and members who helped set up and sell during these days. Community response and support was great!

## DR. LOCHER ANNOUNCES RETIREMENT

Dr. Elizabeth Locher has announced her retirement as Director of the Clifton Forge Public Library after five years of outstanding and dedicated service. During her tenure, Elizabeth has brought many new and innovative ideas to the Library. When asked recently about her accomplishments, she said that the installation of the new Integrated Library System has been the best improvement; it allows patrons to access the Library's catalog of books, renew or reserve them, and link to many other functions. She's also pleased with the re-decoration of the Michael Armstrong Community Room and other physical changes to the building itself.

Elizabeth credits the cooperative Library staff with helping get people back into the Library. In 2004, 10,517 people were in the Library; this year will have seen 22,594 visitors, and a circulation of 27,000 items. Many patrons have complimented Dr. Locher's ability to get popular and relevant books on the shelves, and her friendly and welcoming manner.

Another important accomplishment during her tenure is the formation of the Friends group. She praises their enthusiasm and program support. Elizabeth sees a solid future for Clifton Forge and its progressive Library after her departure at the end of September.



Dr. Locher proudly displays the Library's new red booktruck won by participating in "Replace Your Booktruck" contest.

## CALLING FOR ADVOCATES

As our area governments face an increasing number of requests from public agencies for financial support, it is important that we are able to quickly mobilize volunteers to advocate for CFPL services.

If you would like to attend a Board of Supervisors or Town Council meeting to show support, contact Joe Sargeant, Advocacy & Public Relations Chairman of the CFPL Board of Trustees (862-1933), to begin building an advocacy list.

## EXHIBITS AND SHOWCASE DISPLAYS

February Exhibit: Art and Photography by Sarah Payne and Family.

February Showcase: Whales by Connie Whalen

March Exhibit: Art by Betty Gatewood

March Showcase: Shenandoah Autism Center

May Exhibit: Clifton Forge Middle School Art

May Showcase: Pens by Jon Beard

\*If you would like to display items as wall exhibits or as showcase displays, contact Dr. Locher at the library.

## “LONELY MACHINE”



This machine sits idle waiting for some of you to discover its ability to take you back in time!

It is a **microfilm reader** which enables you to read old newspapers. If you want to look up an old obituary, wedding, sports event, or other articles, and if you have the approximate date you can scroll through the pages, find the article and print it out. A patron did this for a great-grandfather's obituary and took copies to the family reunion. Wow! It was a treasure of information that everyone wanted. The library has microfilm from the Clifton Forge Review, May 1898 to December 1924; the Daily Review, February 1907 to December 1988; and the Covington Virginian, January 1988 to December 1988; and the Virginian Review, January 1989 to the current date.

The Library staff will be glad to assist you with this machine.

**MEET ME FOR LUNCH:** This book club group meets on the **second Wednesday of each month** at noon in the Michael Armstrong Community Room. Everyone is welcome to bring a bag lunch if you choose. **It is open to the public**, and generally it is a one hour discussion of the monthly reading selections, which are as follows: June 10, The Husband by Dean Koontz; July 8, Handle with Care

by Jodi Picoult; August 12, The Appeal by John Grisham; and September 9, Dark Summer by Iris Johansen.

## MICHAEL ARMSTRONG COMMUNITY ROOM

Congressman Rick Boucher and Delegate Jim Shuler recently presented an American flag and a Virginia flag to the library for use in the Michael Armstrong Community Room. This newly decorated room is used by the following community groups and organizations that meet monthly: Library Board of Trustees, Town Council, Appalfocks, Library Quilters, Thread Benders, Vocal Music, Poetry Workshop, and Congressman Rick Boucher's representative (3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday). The room may be used by other community organizations or groups, but reservations must be scheduled by the library staff.



Delegate Jim Shuler presented Virginia flag to Dr. Locher as members of Town Council and Board of Trustees observe.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**SILENT AUCTION:** This event will be in conjunction with the **Fall Book Sale on October 2 and 3**. The chairman of this event is Sarah Payne. Contact her if you would like to donate items with a minimum \$10 value.

**AUTHORS: May 16,** Dr. Roy Habib and his wife Dr. Mona Sadek will present talks on their respective works of fiction and non-fiction. Both are physicians at the Lewis-Gale Hospital in Salem. Dr. Habib, a former physician at Alleghany Regional Hospital, will talk about his books Lessons in Times of War and Peace and A Dream on the Lake.

Dr. Sadek will speak about her publication From Kittens to Babies.

**SUMMER READING PROGRAM:** This program for ages 5 -12, will begin at 10:00 a.m., Wednesday, July 8 and continue each Wednesday through July 29.

Topics and meeting place for the programs will be as follows:  
July 8 – Travel back in time with a visit to the C&O Railway Heritage Museum.

July 15 – Josh Swartz, a performer of live caricatures, will demonstrate examples of various types of caricatures for children to draw.

July 22 – The Green Project, making something using recycled materials, will be held at the Alleghany Highlands Arts & Crafts Center .

July 29 – Program at the Alleghany Highlands Arts & Crafts Center